

**WARREN COMMUNICATIONS NEWS**

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FIXING SPECTRUM POLICY IS AMONG POWELL'S TOP PRIORITIES

LAS VEGAS -- Fixing FCC's "broken" spectrum policies is among agency's top priority, FCC Chairman Powell said Friday at Consumer Electronics Show (CES) here, and unlicensed spectrum bands are providing some of "lessons" directing Commission action. He also said the Commission's quick action Friday on cable compatibility showed DTV remained priority, suggested he would be cautious about easing broadcaster deadlines for DTV transition.

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OTHER STORIES AT THIS HOUR

FCC CLOSES IN ON TOWER SITING PUBLIC NOTICE, with possible release next month, although some areas remain contentious.

NEW BILLS AT START OF 2003 STATE LEGISLATIVE SEASON reveal lawmakers' focus on operation of state regulatory commissions and on telemarketers.

COMM DAILY NOTEBOOK

Personal video recorders (PVRs) and HDTV are keys to DirecTV plans for pressing their competition with cable, COO Roxanne Austin said at CES in Las Vegas late Thursday.

TELECOM

FCC action in Triennial UNE Review probably will be favorable to ILECs but reduction in regulatory requirements also could produce irrational exuberance for Bell companies, Legg Mason said in report.

Progress & Freedom Foundation (PFF) scholar Randolph May produced "scorecard" for evaluating FCC's action on upcoming UNE Triennial Review, cable high-speed access and wireline broadband.

High Tech Broadband Coalition (HTBC) sent letter to Senate Commerce Committee members Fri. urging relaxation of unbundled network element (UNE) requirements on incumbent telephone companies when agency acts on its Triennial UNE Review.

Rep. Honda (D-Cal.) planned to announce today (Mon.) in Wireless Communications Alliance Symposium keynote in San Jose that he will introduce companion legislation to draft "Jumpstart Broadband Act" by Sens. Boxer (D-Cal.), and Allen (R-Va.), Honda aide said.

SBC Communications and Amdocs signed 7-year agreement valued at "hundreds of millions of dollars," latter said.

International

MobilCom said it had significantly reduced its costs as result of restructuring of its service provider operations.

UTStarcom said it had signed \$114 million contract with China Netcom for new and expansion deployments of its equipment in 3 provinces.

Moody's downgraded long-term debt rating of Deutsche Telekom (DT) to Baa3 from Baa1 and short-term rating to Prime-3 from Prime-2 with stable outlook, it said Fri.

Norwegian Telenor Mobil said it would consider filing complaint with Ministry of Communication about govt. decision that provided Telenor's competitor with access to its short message system network (SMS).

State Activities

Second small Cal. ISP promised to challenge SBC Communications settlement with Cal. ISP Assn. on issue of alleged unfair DSL marketing.

MASS MEDIA

All 5 FCC comrs. are scheduled to attend Columbia Law School's Forum on FC media ownership rules Jan. 16 in N.Y.C.

FCC on Fri. issued rulemaking seeking comment on memorandum of understanding (MOU) reached by cable and consumer electronics (CE) manufacturers on "plug-and-play" compatibility.

Former Adelphia executive pleaded guilty to charges in federal case related to financial frauds allegedly perpetrated by company founder John Rigas and his sons.

Nielsen Media Research has signed first 2 commercial stations -- Hearst-Argyle (H-A) WCVB-TV Boston and WMUR-TV Manchester, N.H. -- for its personal people meter rating service that it inaugurated last spring.

SATELLITE

FCC should reject Hughes request to deploy satellites at 107.3 W for Canadian Ka-band authority because company has suggested in past that it will use same satellites to provide service to U.S., Pegasus said.

Globecom Systems said it would get \$5.2 million to provide its satellite-based communications services to Agility Recovery Solutions under 5-year agreement.

FCC officially terminated Hughes-EchoStar proceeding in order released Jan. 8

OBITUARY

Thomas H. Wyman, 73, CBS CEO in first half of 1980s, died Jan. 8 in Boston hospital following surgery for abdominal infection.

COMMUNICATIONS PERSONALS

Richard Lapthorne, Amersham, appointed nonexec. chmn., Cable & Wireless; Ralph Robins retires as chmn., remains nonexec. dir. until Feb. 28... Barry Hoberman, ex-inSilicon, named pres.-CEO, Virtual Silicon Technology, succeeding Tim Unger, who joined Virtual Silicon in May 2002... Changes at GoAmerica: Dan Luis promoted to CEO, joins board; founder Aaron Dobrinsky remains exec. chmn.; King Lee, ex-Quarterdeck, elected to board...

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